

Remarks

Prior to examination of the present application, the Applicant respectfully requests that the application be amended as identified above. The Applicant has added herein new claims 1-63. Thus, claims 1-63 are presently pending in the application, with claims 1, 13, 28, 39, 40, 41, 47, 48, 51 and 63 being in independent format. A marked-up copy of the claims added to the present application by this preliminary amendment is provided herewith as Appendix A.

Based upon the foregoing, the application is believed be in condition for review on the merits. Should the Examiner have any questions or would like to discuss this preliminary amendment, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 2/20/02



Carol H. Peters
Registration No. 45,010
Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris
Glovsky and Popeo, P.C.
One Financial Center
Boston, MA 02111
Attorneys for Applicants
Telephone: (617) 348-4914
Facsimile: (617) 542-2241

Date: February 20, 2002

Appendix A**Marked-Up Version of Claims Added by Preliminary Amendment****CLAIMS**

1. (New) A method for providing an insurance policy for one person and another person comprising:
identifying the persons as insured parties under the insurance policy;
obtaining information regarding the persons;
entering information regarding the persons into a data processing apparatus and determining in the data processing apparatus eligibility of the persons by comparing information received regarding the persons with one or more standards stored in the data processing apparatus;
entering information related to a benefit amount into the data processing apparatus;
entering information related to at least one beneficiary of the insurance policy into the data processing apparatus;
entering information related to a first physical condition for the persons into the data processing apparatus;
entering information related to a benefit qualification time frame into the data processing apparatus; and
generating the insurance policy using the data processing apparatus from the information relating to the eligible persons, the benefit amount, the at least one beneficiary, the first physical condition and the benefit qualification time frame, the insurance policy creating an obligation of an insurer to pay the benefit amount upon the one person assuming the first physical condition: (i) at a time the another person assumes the first physical condition, or (ii) after the another person assumes the first physical condition and within the benefit qualification time frame.

2. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the first physical condition comprises death.
3. (New) The method of claim 1 further comprising entering information relating to a second physical condition for the persons into the data processing apparatus wherein the insurance policy includes an obligation of the insurer to pay the benefit amount upon the one person assuming the first or the second physical condition upon one of the following instances: (i) at a time the another person assumes the first or the second physical condition, or (ii) after the another person assumes the first or the second physical condition and within the benefit qualification time frame.
4. (New) The method of claim 3 wherein the second physical condition comprises permanent incapacity.
5. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the persons have a business relationship.
6. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the persons have a familial relationship.
7. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein at least one of the persons has a business relationship with the at least one beneficiary.
8. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein at least one of the persons has a familial relationship with the at least one beneficiary.
9. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the at least one beneficiary is financially dependent upon at least one of the persons.

10. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein obtaining information regarding the persons includes obtaining responses to one or more questions.
11. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein obtaining information regarding the persons includes obtaining one or more statements from the persons asserting one or more conditions.
12. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the insurance policy includes a term to designate a period of time the insurance policy is effective.
13. (New) A computer implemented method for providing an insurance policy for one person and another person comprising:
entering information identifying the persons as insured parties under the insurance policy into a computer;
obtaining information regarding eligibility of the persons and entering such information into the computer;
entering instructions into the computer to compare eligibility information of the persons with one or more standards stored in the computer;
entering information into the computer relating to at least one benefit amount, at least one beneficiary and a benefit qualification time frame
entering information into the computer relating to a first physical condition for the persons;
entering instructions into the computer to generate the insurance policy from information relating to the eligible persons, the at least one benefit amount, the at least one beneficiary, the first physical condition and the benefit qualification time frame, the insurance policy creating an obligation of an insurer to pay the at least one benefit amount upon the one person assuming the first physical condition: (i) at a time the another person assumes the first physical condition, or (ii) after the another person assumes the first physical condition and within the benefit qualification time frame.

14. (New) The method of claim 13 wherein the first physical condition comprises death.

15. (New) The method of claim 13 wherein the at least one benefit amount includes a partial benefit amount that is provided upon the one person assuming the first physical condition.

16. (New) The method of claim 13 wherein the at least one benefit amount includes a full benefit amount that is provided upon the another person assuming the first physical condition.

17. (New) The method of claim 13 further comprising entering information into the computer defining a second physical condition for the persons wherein the insurance policy includes an obligation of the insurer to pay the at least one benefit amount upon the one person assuming the first or the second physical condition upon one of the following instances: (i) at a time the another person assumes the first or the second physical condition, or (ii) after the another person assumes the first or the second physical condition and within the benefit qualification time frame.

18. (New) The method of claim 17 wherein the at least one benefit payment includes a partial benefit amount that is provided upon the one person assuming the first or the second physical condition.

19. (New) The method of claim 17 wherein the at least one benefit payment includes a full benefit amount that is provided upon the another person assuming the first or the second physical condition.

20. (New) The method of claim 13 wherein the second physical condition comprises permanent incapacity.

21. (New) The method of claim 13 wherein the persons have a business relationship.

22. (New) The method of claim 13 wherein the persons have a familial relationship.

23. (New) The method of claim 13 wherein at least one of the persons has a business relationship with the at least one beneficiary.

24. (New) The method of claim 13 wherein at least one of the persons has a familial relationship with the at least one beneficiary.

25. (New) The method of claim 13 wherein the at least one beneficiary is financially dependent upon at least one of the persons.

26. (New) The method of claim 13 wherein obtaining information regarding the persons includes obtaining responses to one or more questions.

27. (New) The method of claim 13 wherein obtaining information regarding the persons includes obtaining one or more statements from the persons that asserts one or more conditions.

28. (New) An insurance system for providing an insurance policy for one person and another person comprising:

at least one data processing apparatus;
at least one input apparatus operatively connected to the data processing apparatus for inputting information and instructions;
the data processing apparatus having one or more standards of eligibility stored therein;
inputted information in the data processing apparatus identifying the persons as insured parties under the insurance policy;
inputted information in the data processing apparatus related to eligibility of the persons;
inputted instructions in the data processing apparatus to compare the inputted information related to eligibility of the persons with the one or more stored standards of eligibility and to determine eligibility of the persons;
inputted information in the data processing apparatus relating to a benefit amount, at least one beneficiary and a benefit qualification time frame;
inputted information in the data processing apparatus relating to a first physical condition for the persons;
inputted instructions in the data processing apparatus to generate the insurance policy wherein the insurance policy creates an obligation of an insurer to pay the benefit amount upon the one person assuming the first physical condition upon one of the following instances: (i) at a time the another person assumes the first physical condition, or (ii) after the another person assumes the first physical condition and within the benefit qualification time frame; and
an output apparatus operatively connected to the data processing apparatus to produce the insurance policy.

29. (New) The method of claim 28 wherein the first physical condition comprises death.

30. (New) The method of claim 28 further comprising entering information into the computer defining a second physical condition for the persons wherein the insurance policy includes an obligation of the insurer to pay the at least one benefit amount upon the one person assuming the first or the second physical condition upon one of the following instances: (i) at a time the another person assumes the first or the second physical condition, or (ii) after the another person assumes the first or the second physical condition and within the benefit qualification time frame.
31. (New) The method of claim 28 wherein the second physical condition comprises permanent incapacity.
32. (New) The method of claim 28 wherein the persons have a business relationship.
33. (New) The method of claim 28 wherein the persons have a familial relationship.
34. (New) The method of claim 28 wherein at least one of the persons has a business relationship with the at least one beneficiary.
35. (New) The method of claim 28 wherein at least one of the persons has a familial relationship with the at least one beneficiary.
36. (New) The method of claim 28 wherein the at least one beneficiary is financially dependent upon at least one of the persons.
37. (New) The method of claim 28 wherein obtaining information regarding the persons includes obtaining responses to one or more questions.
38. (New) The method of claim 28 wherein obtaining information regarding the persons includes obtaining one or more statements from the persons that asserts one or more conditions.

39. (New) The product of the method of claim 1.

40. (New) The product of the method of claim 13.

41. (New) A method for insuring at least one person and another person comprising:

- a) establishing at least one benefit payment of an insurance policy;
- b) defining at least one physical condition for said persons, said at least one physical condition being a term of said insurance policy;
- c) establishing a benefit qualification time frame, said benefit qualification time frame being a term of said insurance policy;
- d) identifying said persons as insureds under said insurance policy;
- e) identifying at least one beneficiary of said insurance policy; and
- f) said insurance policy providing payment of the at least one benefit payment if, and only if, the one person assumes the at least one physical condition: (i) at the time said another person assumes said at least one physical condition; or (ii) after the another person assumes said at least one physical condition and within said benefit qualification time frame.

42. (New) The method of claim 41 further comprising offering said insurance policy as a principal offer to prospective customers.

43. (New) The method of claim 41 wherein said at least one benefit includes a principal benefit that is provided upon said another person assuming the physical condition within said benefit qualification time frame.

44. (New) The method of claim 41 wherein said at least one benefit includes a subsidiary benefit that is provided upon said one person assuming the physical condition.

45. (New) The method of claim 41 wherein said at least one physical condition includes death.

46. (New) The method of claim 41 wherein said at least one physical condition includes permanent incapacity.

47. (New) The product of the method of claim 41.

48. (New) A method for insuring members of a group having at least a group member and another group member comprising:

- a) establishing at least one benefit payment of an insurance policy;
- b) defining at least one physical condition for said group members, said physical condition being a term of said insurance policy;
- c) establishing a benefit qualification time frame, said benefit qualification time frame being a term of said insurance policy;
- d) identifying said group members as insureds under said insurance policy;
- e) identifying at least one beneficiary of said insurance policy; and,
- f) said insurance policy providing payment of said at least one benefit payment if, and only if, one group member assumes said physical condition: (i) at the time the another group member assumes said at least one physical condition; or (ii) after the another group member assumes said at least one physical condition and within said benefit qualification time frame.

49. (New) An insurance policy, said insurance policy providing payment of at least one defined benefit if, and only if, one identified person assumes a defined physical condition and at least one other identified person assumes the same or a different defined physical condition within a defined benefit qualification time frame.

50. (New) The insurance policy of claim 49 wherein benefit payments are made to one or more beneficiaries of both of said persons.

51. (New) A method for providing an insurance policy for one person and another person comprising:

identifying the persons as insured parties under the insurance policy;
obtaining information regarding the persons;
determining eligibility of the persons by comparing information received
regarding the persons with one or more standards;
establishing at least one benefit amount of the insurance policy;
identifying at least one beneficiary of the insurance policy;
defining a first physical condition for the persons, the first physical condition
being a term of the insurance policy;
establishing a benefit qualification time frame, the benefit qualification time
frame being a term of the insurance policy; and
generating the insurance policy that contains the identity of the eligible persons
and of the at least one beneficiary, the at least one benefit amount, the definition of the
first physical condition and the established benefit qualification time frame, the insurance
policy creating an obligation of an insurer to pay the at least one benefit amount upon the
one person assuming the first physical condition: (i) at a time the another person assumes
the first physical condition, or (ii) after the another person assumes the first physical
condition and within the benefit qualification time frame.

52. (New) The method of claim 51 wherein the first physical condition comprises
death.

53. (New) The method of claim 51 further comprising defining a second physical
condition for the persons, the second physical condition being a term of the insurance
policy wherein the insurance policy includes an obligation of the insurer to pay the at
least one benefit amount upon the one person assuming the first or the second physical
condition upon one of the following instances: (i) at a time the another person assumes
the first or the second physical condition, or (ii) after the another person assumes the first
or the second physical condition and within the benefit qualification time frame.

54. (New) The method of claim 53 wherein the second physical condition comprises permanent incapacity.

55. (New) The method of claim 51 wherein the persons have a business relationship.

56. (New) The method of claim 51 wherein the persons have a familial relationship.

57. (New) The method of claim 51 wherein at least one of the persons has a business relationship with the at least one beneficiary.

58. (New) The method of claim 51 wherein at least one of the persons has a familial relationship with the at least one beneficiary.

59. (New) The method of claim 51 wherein the at least one beneficiary is financially dependent upon at least one of the persons.

60. (New) The method of claim 51 wherein obtaining information regarding the persons includes obtaining responses to one or more questions.

61. (New) The method of claim 51 wherein obtaining information regarding the persons includes obtaining one or more statements from the persons asserting one or more conditions.

62. (New) The method of claim 51 wherein the insurance policy includes a term to designate a period of time the insurance policy is effective.

63. (New) The product of the method of claim 51.